

National Organic Program

Organic Certification Program



See Also:

- What Is Organic?
- Organic Production in Montana
- National Organic Program
- Organic Crop Production
- Organic Livestock Production
- Organic Handling Facilities
- Organic Certification
- How to be Certified
- Converting to Organic Production
- Sources of Organic Information

For more information, contact:

Doug Crabtree
Organic Certification
Program Manager

Montana Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 200201
Helena, MT 59620-0201
Phone: (406) 444-3730
Fax: (406) 444-7336
Email: agr@mt.gov

- NOP is a marketing program, within the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
- Established by the USDA under the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) of 1990
- **Program Missions:**
 - Develop and implement national organic standards
 - Govern the marketing of organically-produced products
 - Facilitate commerce in organically-produced food
 - Ensure consumers that organic products meet consistent standards
- **Advised by 15-member National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) comprised of:**
 - 4 Farmers
 - 2 Handlers
 - 1 Retailer
 - 1 Scientist
 - 3 Consumers
 - 3 Environmentalists
 - 1 Certifying Agent
- **NOP functions:**
 - Administers Final Rule (National Organic Standards)
 - Published March 2001
 - Effective October 2002
 - Maintain National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances
 - Establish and Enforce Labeling Requirements
 - Accreditation of Certifiers
 - Enforcement of OFPA